CHAPTER 3. CLASSIFICATION, SERVICES AND COMPENSATION

SUBCHAPTER 5. OVERTIME COMPENSATION

- 4A:3-5.1. General provisions
- 4A:3-5.2. Definitions: State service
- 4A:3-5.3. 40 hours or less in a workweek: State service
- 4A:3-5.4. Criteria for exemption from Federal Fair Labor Standards Act: State service
- 4A:3-5.5. Federal fair labor standards applicable to more than 40 hours in a workweek for 35, 40 and NE titles: State service
- 4A:3-5.6. Federal fair labor standards applicable to more than 40 hours in a workweek for 3E, 4E, NL and N4 titles: State service
- 4A:3-5.7. Special circumstances: State service
- 4A:3-5.8. Holiday pay: State service
- 4A:3-5.9. Appointing authority responsibilities: State service
- 4A:3-5.10. Appeal procedures: State service

4A:3-5.1 General provisions

- (a) In local service, overtime compensation shall be paid pursuant to standards prepared and administered by the appointing authority in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.
- (b) In State service, overtime compensation for employees in the career, senior executive and unclassified services shall be paid pursuant to this subchapter. See chart (Appendix A) at the end of this subchapter which outlines these overtime provisions.
- (c) See N.J.A.C. 4A:6-2 for State service hours of work and workweek designation rules.

4A:3-5.2 Definitions: State service

The following terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Base salary" means the employee's rate of pay exclusive of any additional payments or allowances.

"Cash overtime compensation" means payment at a rate of one and one-half times the hourly proration of the employee's base salary, or one and one-half times the employee's regular rate, as specified.

"Compensatory time off" means the granting of time off in lieu of cash payment where permitted for excess or unusual work time.

"Covered position" means a position which is subject to the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.

"Exempt position" means a position which is excluded from the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

"Fixed workweek title" means a title specified in the State Compensation Plan as having a 35 hour (35, 3E) or 40 hour (40, 4E) workweek. See N.J.A.C. 4A:6-2.2.

"Holiday" means a legal holiday or a special holiday authorized by law or executive order.

"Non-limited title" means a title having irregular or variable work hours. Such titles may be designated as exempt non-limited (NL, N4), or covered, also known as non-exempt, non-limited (NE). See N.J.A.C. 4A:6-2.3.

"Overtime compensation" means cash overtime compensation or compensatory time off as permitted.

"Pay period" means the period beginning 12:01 A.M. Saturday and ending midnight the second Friday following (Note: A schedule of pay periods is published annually by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury.).

"Regular rate" means the hourly proration of the employee's annual base salary plus the fair market value of goods and facilities received as part of the wages. For employees in covered titles, the regular rate includes clothing allowances unless the allowance is for the purchase or maintenance of prescribed clothing required by the employer. Employees in covered non-limited titles (NE) shall be deemed to have a 40-hour workweek for determining the hourly proration. Employees who work at different pay rates in a single workweek shall have their hourly proration based on a weighted average of the different rates.

"Seven day coverage position" means a position assigned to an area where work coverage is required on a seven day basis throughout the year.

"Workweek" means the period beginning 12:01 A.M. Saturday and ending midnight the following Friday except in those instances where the Commissioner or his or her representative has approved an alternate workweek for overtime purposes for employees engaged in seven day operations.

4A:3-5.3 40 hours or less in a workweek: State service

(a) Employees in the following groups may be eligible for overtime compensation for work performed beyond their regular work hours, but not more than 40 hours:

- 1. Employees in 35 hour fixed workweek titles (35, 3E) for time worked in excess of the regular workweek.
- 2. Employees in 35 hour fixed workweek titles (35, 3E) who are participating in an approved alternative workweek program may be eligible for overtime compensation for work performed beyond 70 work hours in a 14 day work period.
- 3. Employees in non-limited titles (NL, NE) who meet unusual work time requirements, at the discretion of the appointing authority.
- 4. State Police law enforcement officers, at the request of the Office of Employee Relations.
- 5. Part-time employees only when they work beyond the regular workweek established for full-time employees in their titles.
- (b) Temporary employees shall not be eligible for overtime compensation under this section.
- (c) An employee shall be eligible for overtime compensation under this section only when:
- 1. The employee is in pay status for the full number of hours in his or her regular workweek:
- 2. The employee works at least one hour beyond the regular workweek or approved alternative workweek program of 70 hours in a 14 day work period, for employees in 35 hour fixed workweek titles (35, 3E); and
- 3. The work is covered by the job specification for the employee's title, except for emergencies as provided in N.J.A.C. 4A:3-5.7(d).
 - (d) Overtime compensation under this section shall be paid as follows:
- 1. Employees in 35 hour fixed workweek titles (35, 3E) shall be compensated either in cash payment or compensatory time off at the discretion of the appointing authority with the approval of the Commissioner or his or her designee for time worked in excess of the regular workweek but not more than 40 hours, except that such employees participating in an approved alternative workweek program of 70 hours in a 14 day work period shall be so compensated for time worked in excess of 70 hours but not more than 80 hours.
- i. Cash compensation for overtime work shall be at the rate of one and one-half times the hourly proration of an employee's base salary. An overtime rate conversion table shall be published with the State Compensation Plan.

- ii. Compensatory time off shall be at the rate of one and one-half hours for each hour worked in excess of the regular workweek or approved alternative workweek program of 70 hours in a 14 day work period for employees in 35 hour fixed workweek titles (35, 3E).
- 2. Employees in non-limited titles (NL, NE) who meet unusual work time requirements may, at the discretion of the appointing authority, be compensated through either a provision for flexible work patterns or a grant of comparable amounts of time off to a maximum of one hour for each hour of unusual work time, provided that employees serving as a commissioner or department head; an assistant or deputy commissioner; a division director or equivalent; and employees in exempt positions in titles which are not represented in collective negotiations with established salary ranges at or above range 32, and in such exempt positions in titles with single rates or no range who are receiving a salary at or above the first step of such ranges, shall not be granted such compensation. In no event shall employees in non-limited titles have any entitlement to cash overtime compensation.
- 3. Work credited toward overtime compensation must be in one-half hour units of continuous work beyond each regular work day, or a work day in an approved alternative workweek program of 70 hours in a 14 day work period for employees in 35 hour fixed workweek titles (35, 3E).
- 4. Employees in non-limited (NL, NE) positions who are not eligible for cash overtime compensation shall not receive a cash payment for unused comparable time off upon separation from service.

4A:3-5.4 Criteria for exemption from Federal Fair Labor Standards Act: State service

- (a) The following are the criteria for exemption from the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.:
 - 1. An unclassified employee is exempt if he or she:
 - i. Holds a public elective office of the State:
 - ii. Is a member of the personal staff of an elected office holder;
 - iii. Is appointed by such an office holder to serve on a policy making level;
- iv. Is an immediate adviser to such an office holder with respect to the constitutional or legal powers of the office; or
 - v. Meets one of the criteria for exemption set forth in (a)2 through 6 below.

- 2. An executive employee paid at least \$250.00 a week on a salary basis exclusive of board, lodging and other facilities is exempt if the employee regularly directs the work of two or more other employees and the employee's primary duty is management of the enterprise or a recognized department or subdivision thereof.
- 3. An administrative employee who is paid on a salary or fee basis at least \$250.00 a week, exclusive of board, lodging or other facilities, is exempt if his or her primary duty is responsible office or non-manual work directly related to management policies or general business operations or responsible work in the administration of an educational institution and his or her work requires the exercise of discretion and independent judgment.
- 4. A professional employee who is paid at least \$250.00 per week is exempt if his or her primary duty requires advanced knowledge in a field of science or learning or involves work as a teacher, and requires the consistent exercise of discretion of judgement; or his or her primary duty involves artistic work in a recognized field of artistic endeavor.
- 5. Executive, administrative and professional employees who are paid less than \$250.00 per week may be exempt under conditions specified in Federal regulations. See 29 C.F.R. 541.
- 6. Employees engaged in law enforcement or fire protection activities, including security personnel in correctional institutions, who are employed by a public agency that employs less than five law enforcement or five fire protection workers in a workweek, are exempt.
- (b) An individual position may be exempt if it meets the criteria in this section, even if it is in a covered title. See N.J.A.C. 4A:3-5.10(b) for position designation appeals.

4A:3-5.5 Federal fair labor standards applicable to more than 40 hours in a workweek for 35, 40 and NE titles: State service

- (a) Employees in covered positions may be eligible for overtime compensation under this section as follows:
- 1. Employees in covered fixed workweek titles (35, 40) and covered non-limited titles (NE), shall be eligible for either cash payment or compensatory time off at the discretion of the department head with the approval of the Commissioner or his or her representative for time worked in excess of 40 hours per week, provided that compensatory time off in lieu of cash overtime compensation is permitted by one of the following agreements:

- i. Applicable provisions of a collective negotiations agreement, memorandum of understanding, or any other agreement between the State and representatives of such employees;
- ii. In the case of employees who do not have a collective negotiations representative, an agreement or understanding made between the appointing authority and the employee before the performance of the overtime work. For such employees who were hired prior to April 15, 1986, the regular practice in effect on April 15, 1986 regarding compensatory time off in lieu of cash overtime compensation shall constitute an agreement or understanding.
- 2. The Commissioner or his or her designee may approve an alternate work period and corresponding maximum hour designation for covered law enforcement and fire protection employees as set forth in the table below. Such employees shall receive overtime compensation for time worked in excess of maximum allowable hours in the work period.

Maximum Hours in Work Period

Work Period (days)	Firefighters	Law Enforceme	nt
28	212	171	
27	204	165	
26	197	159	
25	189	153	
24	182	147	
23	174	141	
22	167	134	
21	159	128	
20	151	122	
19	144	116	
18	136	110	
17	129	104	
16	121	98	
15	114	92	
14	106	86	
13	98	79	
12	91	73	
11	83	67	
10	76	61	
9	68	55	
8	61	49	
7	53	43	
		0 111	

3. A hospital or residential care facility may, under a prior agreement with affected employees and as approved by the Commissioner or his or her designee, use a

work period of 14 consecutive days for computing overtime compensation for covered employees.

- 4. Temporary employees shall be entitled to overtime compensation unless their work duties meet the criteria for exemption under the Fair Labor Standards Act.
 - (b) Overtime compensation under this section shall be paid as follows:
- 1. Covered employees (35, 40 or NE titles) shall be compensated either in cash payment or compensatory time off at the discretion of the department head with the approval of the Commissioner or his or her designee for time worked in excess of 40 hours per week as provided in (a)1 above. However, if an alternate work period is adopted pursuant to (a)2 above, overtime compensation shall be paid in accordance with that schedule.
- 2. Cash compensation for overtime work shall be at the rate of one and one-half times the regular rate.
- 3. Compensatory time off shall be at the rate of one and one-half hours for each hour worked in excess of the regular workweek.
- 4. Employees engaged in a public safety activity, an emergency response activity, or a seasonal activity may accrue not more than 480 hours of compensatory time off. Employees engaged in any other work may accrue not more than 240 hours of compensatory time off.
- 5. Cash compensation for accrued compensatory time off shall be paid at the regular rate earned by the employee at the time such employee receives such payment. However, upon termination of employment, an employee shall be paid for unused compensatory time at a rate not less than the average regular rate received during the last three years of employment, or the final regular rate received by such employee, whichever is higher.
- 6. Overtime compensation for work in excess of 40 hours for covered employees who work at different pay rates during the same workweek shall be paid as follows:
- i. Cash overtime compensation shall be at the rate of one and one-half times the weighted average of the different rates paid during that workweek.
- ii. Compensatory time off in lieu of cash compensation shall be at the rate of one and one-half hours for each hour worked in excess of the regular workweek.
- 7. If a 14 day work period is elected for hospital employees under (a)3 above, covered employees shall receive overtime compensation for work in excess of eight hours in a workday or 80 hours in a work period at a rate representing one and one-half times

the regular rate of pay. The extra compensation at the premium rate paid for hours worked in excess of eight in a workday may be credited toward any overtime compensation payable for hours worked in excess of 80 in the 14 day work period.

8. Work credited toward overtime compensation shall be in one-tenth hour units (six minutes) of continuous work beyond each regular work day.

4A:3-5.6 Federal fair labor standards applicable to more than 40 hours in a workweek for 3E, 4E, NL and N4 titles: State service

- (a) Employees in exempt positions may be eligible for overtime compensation under this section as follows:
- 1. Employees in exempt fixed workweek titles (3E, 4E) shall be eligible for either cash payment or compensatory time off at the discretion of the department head with the approval of the Commissioner or his or her designee for time worked in excess of 40 hours per week.
- 2. Employees in 4E titles who are participating in an approved alternative workweek program may be eligible for overtime compensation for work performed beyond 80 hours in a 14 day work period.
- 3. Employees in exempt non-limited titles (NL, N4) shall not be eligible for cash overtime compensation except as provided in N.J.A.C. 4A:3-5.7(d).
 - (b) Overtime compensation for employees in exempt positions shall be as follows:
- 1. Exempt employees in fixed workweek titles (3E, 4E) shall be compensated either in cash payment or compensatory time off at the discretion of the department head with the approval of the Commissioner or his or her designee for time worked in excess of the regular workweek.
- i. Cash compensation for overtime work shall be at the rate of one and one-half times the hourly proration of an employee's base salary.
- ii. Compensatory time off in lieu of cash compensation shall be at the rate of one and one-half hours for each hour worked in excess of the regular workweek.
- 2. Exempt employees in non-limited workweek titles (NL, N4) who meet unusual work time requirements may, at the discretion of the appointing authority, be compensated through either a provision for flexible work time patterns or a grant of comparable amounts of time off to a maximum of one hour for each hour of unusual work time, provided that employees serving as a commissioner or department head; an assistant or deputy commissioner; a division director or equivalent; and employees in

exempt positions in titles which are not represented in collective negotiations with established salary ranges at or above range 32, and in such exempt positions in titles with single rates or no range who are receiving a salary at or above the first step of such ranges, shall not be granted such compensation. See N.J.A.C. 4A:3-5.7(e)2 as to special project rates.

3. Employees in exempt positions who are not eligible for cash overtime compensation shall not receive a cash payment for unused comparable time off upon separation from service.

4A:3-5.7 Special circumstances: State service

- (a) Eligibility for overtime compensation for on call employees shall be as follows:
- 1. Employees in covered positions (35, 40, NE) who are required to remain on call and cannot use their own time effectively shall be considered to be working and shall have such on call time included in the total hours worked. In those situations where employees are merely required to remain at home or leave word with appropriate officials where they may be reached, they are not considered to be working while on call unless their freedom to engage in personal activities during that period is severely restricted.
- i. Overtime compensation at the rate of one and one-half times the regular rate or one and one-half hours for each hour worked in excess of the regular workweek shall only be payable for that period after total hours worked exceed 40 hours in a workweek.
- 2. Employees in exempt positions (3E, 4E, NL, N4) shall have no entitlement to compensation for such time.
 - (b) Eligibility for overtime compensation for training shall be as follows:
- 1. Employees in covered positions (35, 40, NE) who are required by their employer to participate in job related training shall have such training time included in the total hours worked.
- i. Overtime compensation at the rate of one and one-half times the regular rate or one and one-half hours for each hour worked in excess of the regular workweek shall only be payable for that period after total hours worked exceed 40 hours in a workweek.
- ii. For time worked in excess of a 35 hour fixed workweek but not over 40 hours, hour for hour compensation may be granted in the form of cash or time off, at the discretion of the appointing authority.

- 2. Employees in exempt fixed workweek positions (3E, 4E) may be granted hour for hour compensation in the form of cash or time off, at the discretion of the appointing authority.
- 3. Employees in exempt non-limited positions (NL, N4) shall have no entitlement to compensation for such time.
 - (c) Eligibility for overtime compensation for travel shall be as follows:
- 1. Employees in covered positions (35, 40, NE) who are required to travel contiguous to the normal workday in excess of normal commutation time shall have such hours included in the total hours worked.
- i. Overtime compensation at the rate of one and one-half times the regular rate or one and one-half hours for each hour worked in excess of the regular workweek shall only be payable for that period after total hours worked exceed 40 hours in a workweek.
- ii. For time worked in excess of a 35 hour fixed workweek but not over 40 hours, hour for hour compensation may be granted in the form of cash or time off, at the discretion of the appointing authority.
- 2. Employees in exempt fixed workweek positions (3E, 4E) may be granted hour for hour compensation in the form of cash or time off, at the discretion of the appointing authority.
- 3. Employees in exempt non-limited positions (NL, N4) shall have no entitlement to compensation for such time.
- (d) Eligibility for overtime compensation for exceptional emergencies shall be as follows:
- 1. When an agency head declares an exceptional emergency involving a critical service disruption that poses a danger to health or safety, he or she may authorize:
- i. Cash overtime compensation for non-limited employees in titles with established salary ranges below range 32 performing emergency related work. For these circumstances employees in non-limited titles shall be deemed to have a 40 hour workweek.
- ii. Overtime compensation for work not covered by the job specification. See N.J.A.C. 4A:3-5.3(c)3.

- 2. An agency head shall file with the Commissioner two reports concerning an exceptional emergency as follows:
- i. Within seven days of the declaration of the exceptional emergency, a fully detailed justification for the declaration. The report shall describe the critical services which could have been or were disrupted and what dangers were posed to health or safety.
- ii. Within 30 days of the conclusion of the exceptional emergency, a list of the names, titles, hours of work designations and number of hours of emergency related overtime work of employees who performed emergency related work on an overtime basis.
- 3. These provisions shall not apply to work performed beyond the regular work hours on emergency maintenance, construction, snow removal or other related work in situations which constitute unreasonable safety hazards to the public, employees, other persons or property of the State. The Commissioner shall establish emergency condition rates for these circumstances.
 - (e) Eligibility for special project rate compensation shall be as follows:
- 1. If an employee works on a part time, occasional or sporadic basis, and solely at the employee's option, in a different capacity from which the employee is regularly employed, the hours employed in the different capacity shall be excluded from the calculation of the hours to which the employee is entitled to overtime compensation. Such employment may be paid at special project rates as approved by the Commissioner.
- 2. NL and N4 employees who perform extraordinary work activities on a limited or periodic basis necessitating work time beyond the general workweek in the same capacity from which the employee is regularly employed may be paid special project rates as approved by the Commissioner.
- 3. A fully detailed justification for a special project for which (e)1 or 2 above would be applicable must be filed with the Commissioner or his or her representative for review and approval.

4A:3-5.8 Holiday pay: State service

(a) Full-time and part-time employees in fixed workweek titles shall be entitled to overtime compensation in addition to their regular rate of compensation for all work performed on a holiday, except as provided in (d) below, even if they are not in pay status for a full workweek.

- (b) Employees in non-limited titles are not entitled to overtime compensation for work performed on a holiday, except as provided in N.J.A.C. 4A:3-5.6. However, those in titles below that of agency head may, at the discretion of the appointing authority, be granted comparable time off to a maximum of hour for bour for such work in addition to their regular rate of compensation.
- (c) The following shall govern overtime compensation for full-time and part-time employees in fixed workweek titles who are employed in a seven day coverage operation:
- 1. If a holiday occurs on a regular workday of an employee, the employee is entitled to overtime compensation for all work performed on that holiday in addition to the regular rate of compensation.
- 2. If a holiday occurs on a regular day off, an employee shall be given an additional day off in the same workweek. If, as a result of an emergency, the employee is required to work on the additional day, he or she shall be entitled to overtime compensation for all work performed on the additional day.
- 3. If a holiday occurs on a regular workday of an employee and the employee does not report for duty, he or she shall not be eligible for overtime compensation or an alternate day off for that holiday.
- (d) A part-time or full-time employee in a fixed workweek title, in conjunction with his or her appointing authority, may agree to work on a holiday in exchange for a specified day of personal preference off. If the employee is required to work on the specified personal preference day, she or he shall be entitled to overtime compensation for all hours worked on the personal preference day as if that day were the holiday.
- (e) Eligibility for overtime compensation for temporary employees shall be as follows:
- 1. Unless permitted by a negotiated labor contract, temporary employees shall not be entitled to overtime compensation for work performed on a holiday, except as provided in N.J.A.C. 4A:3-5.5(a)(4).
- 2. Unless permitted by a negotiated labor contract, temporary employees shall not be entitled to any form of compensation for a holiday not worked.

4A:3-5.9 Appointing authority responsibilities: State service

(a) Each appointing authority shall develop procedures for administering overtime that are consistent with this subchapter and at a minimum provide for:

- 1. Written authorization by the appointing authority or his or her designee in advance of overtime to be worked. Whenever circumstances are such that prior authorization is not possible, the overtime must be authorized in writing immediately thereafter;
 - 2. Records of approved overtime requests and work accomplished;
- 3. Systems for continuous and periodic review of overtime requirements with a view toward accomplishing the work during regular work time; and
- 4. Written procedures for supervisory personnel to follow in the authorization of either compensatory time or cash payment for overtime.
- (b) A copy of each department's procedures, written interpretations and any subsequent changes are to be filed with the Commissioner or his or her designee and approved prior to promulgation.
- (c) For budget requests, the appointing authority shall provide an annual summary to include the extent and justification for overtime required during the past fiscal year, current fiscal year, and the extent and justification of anticipated overtime during the next fiscal year. The latter shall be supported by a description of the work programs to be accomplished, the amount of hours and money involved, the circumstances dictating that it be overtime, and alternatives that would permit accomplishment of the overtime work on regular time. The instructions for the above shall be included in the "Manual for Preparation of Budget Request" which is published and distributed to all State agencies by the Office of Management and Budget in the Department of the Treasury. The appointing authority shall file a copy of this summary with the Commissioner or his or her representative.
 - (d) The following records shall be kept:
 - 1. Name of employee in full;
 - 2. Home address, including zip code;
 - 3. Date of birth, if under 19;
 - 4. Sex and occupation;
 - 5. Time of day and day of week on which the employee's workweek begins;
- 6. Regular hourly rate of pay in any workweek in which overtime premium is due, or other basis of wage payment (such as "\$5.00 hr.," "\$40.00 day," "\$200.00 wk.");

- 7. Daily and weekly hours of work;
- 8. Total daily or weekly straight time earnings;
- 9. Total overtime compensation for the workweek;
- 10. Total additions to or deductions from wages paid;
- 11. Total wages paid each pay period;
- 12. Date of payment and the pay period covered by payment; and
- 13. Approved overtime requests and a summary of work accomplished.
- (e) Upon demand, the appointing authority shall make available to the Commissioner or his or her representative all records and accounts of overtime work at the time(s) and location(s) specified.
- (f) Upon demand for reports of compensatory time off or comparable time off, the appointing authority shall make available to the Commissioner or his or her representative the following items:
- 1. The names, titles and salary ranges of employees receiving compensatory time off or comparable time off;
- 2. The names, titles and salary ranges of employees receiving payment for unused compensatory time off or comparable time off, the amount paid to each such employee, and the number of hours on which the payment was based;
- 3. The number of days on which compensatory time off or comparable time off was earned;
- 4. The total number of hours each employee worked beyond the normal workweek;
- 5. The total number of hours of compensatory time off or comparable time off earned by each employee;
- 6. The total number of hours of compensatory time off or comparable time off used by each employee;
- 7. The balance of unused compensatory time off or comparable time off for each employee; and

- 8. A justification for the granting of compensatory time off or comparable time off for each employee.
- (g) Procedures for payments of compensable overtime will be published as part of the payroll manual.

4A:3-5.10 Appeal procedures: State service

- (a) Appeals may be filed under this subchapter as follows:
- 1. Position designation appeals, in which the issue is the status of a particular position as exempt or covered under the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.; and/or
- 2. Title designation appeals, in which the issue is the status of an entire job title in the State classification plan as exempt or covered under the Fair Labor Standards Act.
- (b) Position designation appeals may be filed by an employee and shall be submitted, in writing, to the appointing authority through the personnel office.
- 1. The appeal must identify the specific duties at issue and must be accompanied by a Classification Questionnaire, signed by the employee and the supervisor. If the appellant proposes a different status for the position (exempt or covered), he or she must explain how the requested status more accurately reflects the duties of the position under the Fair Labor Standards Act. See N.J.A.C. 4A:3-5.4.
- 2. The appointing authority shall review the appeal and notify the appellant of its decision within 20 days of receipt of the appeal. This decision letter must include the duties of the position, findings of fact, conclusions and the determination that:
 - i. The position is properly classified as exempt or covered; or
- ii. The position is improperly designated, in which case the appointing authority shall provide appropriate duties or designate the appropriate status.
- 3. The decision letter shall state that the appellant has the right to appeal an adverse decision. Additionally, if the appellant does not receive a decision letter from the appointing authority within 20 days, he or she may file an appeal, in writing, within 10 days from the final day for the appointing authority's decision. All second level appeals shall be submitted to the Department of Personnel.
- i. An employee submitting a second level appeal must include a copy of the initial appeal letter to the appointing authority, a copy of the completed Classification

Questionnaire, and the appointing authority's decision letter, if issued. The appeal must state what specific portions of that decision are contested and the reasons.

- 4. The appropriate section of the Department of Personnel shall review the appeal, order an audit where warranted, and issue a written decision. The decision letter shall be issued within 20 days of receipt of the appeal and shall include findings of fact, conclusions, a determination and a statement that the appellant has the right of appeal to the Commissioner.
- 5. All appeals to the Commissioner must include copies of the determinations and decision letters from the lower levels and state which findings are being disputed and the reasons. Appeals shall be submitted, in writing, within 20 days of receipt of the decision letter from the prior level in the Department of Personnel.
- i. The Commissioner shall render a decision based on the written record or such other procedures as he or she deems appropriate.
 - ii. The decision of the Commissioner shall be the final administrative decision.
- (c) Title designation appeals may be filed either by the appointing authority or an affected employee.
- 1. The appeal must explain how the requested status more accurately reflects the duties of the title under the Fair Labor Standards Act. See N.J.A.C. 4A:3-5.4. Such appeals shall be submitted, in writing, to the Department of Personnel.
- 2. The appeal shall be reviewed and a written decision issued in accordance with (b)4 above.
- 3. An appeal of the first level decision may be filed with the Commissioner in accordance with (a)5 above.
- (d) Other issues relating to overtime payments may be reviewed through the grievance process. See N.J.A.C. 4A:2-3.